

Mt. Edgecumbe Advisory Board Recommendation:

Mt. Edgecumbe Advisory Board has two open seats this year, one alumni seat and one parent seat.

Current Board:

Open	Michelle Martin, Chair	Parent Representative	Juneau
	Jerilyn Kelly	Parent Representative	Quinhagak
	Dorothy Chase, Secretary	Parent Representative	Bethel
Open	Joshua Vo, Vice Chair	Alumni Representative	Anchorage
	Lydia Agnus	Alumni Representative	Kotzebue
	Travis Vaughan	Sitka Community Representative	Sitka
	Melissa Johnson	Public School Administrator Representative	Ketchikan Gateway Ketchikan
	Sally Stockhausen	State Board Representative	Ketchikan

MEHS received interest from four candidates for the Alumni Representative position and four candidates for the Parent Representative position. Half of the candidates qualified for both positions. The selections were based on the role for which each candidate applied. All eight candidates for the alumni and parent position were strong with many reasons to select any one of them. Since Mt. Edgecumbe students come from about 110 communities across the state, geographic diversity was considered in making the final selections.

Mt. Edgecumbe Administration recommends Tanya Kitka for the Alumni Representative. The incumbent for the position is Joshua Vo, who has chosen to not seek continued appointment. He served as the Advisory Board Vice-Chair.

Tanya resides in Kodiak and would bring representation from the SouthCentral region of Alaska. She was involved in various clubs and activities while at Mt. Edgecumbe, including participation in foreign exchange programs. Her post-secondary education included trade school (AVTEC for welding) and college at the University of Alaska Kodiak College. She has previous boards and commissions experience but is not currently serving on any other boards, which leaves her time open and free of conflicts for committing to the MEHS Advisory Board.

Mt. Edgecumbe Administration recommends Robyn Burke for the Parent Representative position.

The incumbent for the position is Michelle Martin, who is not seeking reappointment as her son graduated from Mt. Edgecumbe High School this year, and she will no longer qualify as a parent representative. She served as the Chair.

Robyn resides in Utqiagvik and would bring representation from the Arctic region of Alaska. The Advisory Board has recently worked with the Alaska Association of School Boards to incorporate training to enhance their effectiveness as an advisory board and intends to incorporate committee work in the next school year. Robyn has extensive boards and commissions experience, which will be valuable as the Advisory Board enters into this new dimension of their work.

Detailed information about both the recommended candidates are included along with a quick summary of the applications of all candidates.

Alumni Representative Candidate Application Summaries:

Tanya Kitka - Recommended

Tanya Kitka resides in Kodiak and graduated from MEHS in 2002.

Tanya currently works as an Administrative Assistant for Alaska Marine Surveyors Inc. She has previously served on the Alderwood Homeowners Board of Directors as Secretary. Tanya believes that MEHS supports a position that is still very much needed in Alaska. During her enrollment she was involved in various clubs and groups. She takes pride in her academic career and her decision to bring her knowledge and skills back to her hometown community. She credits MEHS in having a significant role in shaping who she is today.

Tanya thinks that what makes her uniquely qualified for the Alumni Representative position is that she feels she is a fierce supporter of MEHS. She has a great appreciation for education and especially the school and would like to contribute her experience and knowledge towards ensuring the viability of MEHS and its continued success in the future.

Andrea Johnson

Andrea Johnson resides in Bethel and graduated from MEHS in 2017 MEHS.

Andrea currently works for the Alaska State Troopers as a Criminal Justice Technician. She has a desire to help serve the public and knew that whichever career path she chose, that desire would be her driving item. Andrea considers herself a very goal-oriented person and credits growing up in rural Alaska as a reason. She believes that being goal oriented is a way of life and not just a practice.

While enrolled at MEHS, Andrea was active on the Student Council, National Honor Society and participated in a number of sports. She has a long-standing family history of MEHS alumni. Representing and supporting MEHS is not a new role to Andrea, and she would like to continue doing so by serving as a member on the Advisory Board.

Andrea thinks that what makes her uniquely qualified for the Alumni Representative position is that she is a longtime supporter of MEHS. She understands that there are many communities consisting of previous, current, and future attendees of MEHS spread throughout Alaska. She is eager to learn more and contribute to the well-being and security of MEHS as a whole.

Dionne Brady-Howard

Dionne Brady-Howard resides in Sitka and graduated from MEHS in 1991.

Dionne has been a social studies teacher at MEHS since 2000 and is retiring from teaching at the end of the 2022-2023 school year. Dionne remains connected and involved with the alumni base. She was a student teacher at MEHS in 1997 and has had three daughters attend and graduate from MEHS as well.

Dionne takes pride in being deeply culturally embedded within the community of Sitka. She has a desire to serve on the MEHS Advisory Board upon her retirement from teaching at the school. She would like to continue to serve the institution that has given so much to her. She maintains active communication with alumni at statewide events as well as when she engages in personal travel, oftentimes organizing informal gatherings.

Dionne thinks that what makes her uniquely qualified for the Alumni Representative position is that she understands the structure of MEHS as a state-run public school that is a division of a department in a larger bureaucracy than the 'typical' school district. She served on the Sitka School Board for four years and was on the IEA/JOM Sitka Native Education Program Parent Committee for thirteen years. Dionne currently serves as Chairperson on the Sitkans Against Family Violence Board and has recently been appointed to represent the Sitka Tribe of Alaska on the Sitka Historic Preservation Commission.

Paul Paul

Paul Paul resides in Kongiganak and attended MEHS from 1971-1974.

Paul currently works for the Kongiganak Traditional Council as the Village Language Planner.

He has a special interest in the preservation of indigenous languages and feels that the State of Alaska's Education Board should have more of a role in the preservation of Native languages throughout the state.

Paul has served in the military, the local Advisory School Board, Corporation Board member, Traditional Council member and St. Gabriel Orthodox Faith.

Paul thinks that what makes him uniquely qualified for the Alumni Representative position is his understanding of a boarding school and what problems students may need help in.

Parent Representative Candidate Application Summaries:

Robyn Burke - Recommended

Robyn resides in Utqiagvik and has a son who attends MEHS.

Robyn has been serving on the North Slope Borough School District Board of Education for the past three years. She served as the Board Clerk and is now currently serving as the Board President. She was recently selected to serve on the Association of Alaska School Board's Board of Directors. She occupies a seat on her local School Board and serves on the Policy Review Committee, Legislative Committee, Certificated Evaluation Committee, and the Negotiations Committee. She previously worked for the North Slope Borough School District as the Human Resources Director.

Robyn thinks that what makes her uniquely qualified for the Parent Representative position or the Alumni Representative position is that she is a proud parent of a student who attends MEHS and a product of MEHS. She has spent the last thirteen years working in and around education systems from answering phones to hiring teachers. She feels that she has worked hard to

advocate for students in the State of Alaska and has always been a firm supporter of MEHS. She believes that MEHS gave her the skills she needed to think critically and serve her community and is hopeful for the opportunity to serve the community that helped raise her.

Courtenay Carty

Courtenay Carty resides in Dillingham and has a daughter who attends MEHS.

Courtenay has been serving as the Tribal Administrator for the Curyung Tribal Council for five years. She worked as the Director of Planning & Grants Management for the Dillingham City Council. Courtenay also served as a director to the board of SAFE for Bristol Bay.

Courtenay thinks that what makes her uniquely qualified for the Parent Representative position is that she may stand out due to her regularly voiced opinion on matters that she feels are important as well as having excellent organizational skills.

Regina Johnson

Regina Johnson resides in Bethel and currently has a daughter attending MEHS.

Regina graduated from MEHS in 1993 and has previously served on the Advisory Board. She has served on the Employee Advisory Committee throughout her career with the court system. She served as vice president and secretary to the local VFW Auxiliary in Bethel. She was recently appointed to the Workplace Conduct Committee by the director of the court system.

Regina's family is very culturally driven, they take pride in participating in Yupik traditions that include making Native regalia which is very important to her in carrying on traditions. To Regina, family comes first and she believes that MEHS has encouraged this concept throughout the years. She would like to help guide the school board and contribute her core values to ensure MEHS carries on the family atmosphere.

Regina thinks that what makes her uniquely qualified for the Parent Representative position is her long work experience and serving on the committees and prior service on the MEHS board. She feels that she is sincere, honest, respectful and feels that everyone should be treated fairly. She views herself as a leader and would like to contribute her experiences to the board.

Amber Cunningham

Amber Cunningham resides in Unalaqliq (Unalakleet) and currently has a son who attends MEHS.

Amber graduated from MEHS in 2004 and currently works for the Bering Strait School District as a Registrar and the Migrant Education Program Records Manager. She appreciates the high standards that students are held to while attending MEHS and loved the experience that she had while she was a student.

Amber was elected to the Native Village of Unalakleet Tribal Council in 2018 and is currently serving her second term with the council. She values community and tradition and has focused

on the housing shortage in Unalakleet and helping people heal from intergenerational trauma as well as reviving the Inupiaq language in the village.

Amber thinks that what makes her uniquely qualified for the Parent Representative position is her passion for education. She has been attending UAA and UAF since graduation from high school. She holds a Bachelor of Arts degree in elementary education with a Minor in psychology, a Master of Arts degree in teaching and learning, and a Bachelor of Arts degree in political science. She also feels that she can bring a rural perspective to the Advisory Board.